

**OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS
RENDERED BY THE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE**

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

VOLUME 20. Part 12. Pp. 129—138

OPINION 545

Validation under the Plenary Powers of the generic
name *Dictyoploca* Jordan, 1911 (Class Insecta, Order
Lepidoptera)

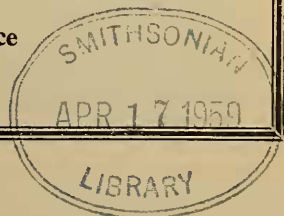
LONDON :

Printed by Order of the International Trust for
Zoological Nomenclature
and

Sold on behalf of the International Commission on Zoological
Nomenclature by the International Trust at its Publications Office
41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7
1959

Price Seven Shillings and Sixpence

(All rights reserved)



INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 545

A. The Officers of the Commission

Honorary Life President : Dr. Karl JORDAN (*British Museum (Natural History), Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts., England*)

President : Professor James Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953)

Vice-President : Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*) (12th August 1953)

Secretary : Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (27th July 1948)

B. The Members of the Commission

(*Arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology*)

Professor H. BOSCHMA (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (1st January 1947)

Senor Dr. Angel CABRERA (*La Plata, Argentina*) (27th July 1948)

Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (27th July 1948) (*Secretary*)

Dr. Henning LEMCHE (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) (27th July 1948)

Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950)

Professor Pierre BONNET (*Université de Toulouse, France*) (9th June 1950)

Mr. Norman Denbigh RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) (9th June 1950)

Professor Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland*) (5th June 1950)

Professor Robert MERTENS (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a.M., Germany*) (5th July 1950)

Professor Erich Martin HERING (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*) (5th July 1950)

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*S. Paulo, Brazil*) (12th August 1953) (*Vice-President*)

Professor J. R. DYMOND (*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*) (12th August 1953)

Professor J. Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953) (*President*)

Professor Harold E. VOKES (*University of Tulane, Department of Geology, New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953)

Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Mezőgazdasági Múzeum, Budapest, Hungary*) (12th August 1953)

Dr. Norman R. STOLL (*Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953)

Mr. P. C. SYLVESTER-BRADLEY (*Sheffield University, Sheffield, England*) (12th August 1953)

Dr. L. B. HOLTHUIS (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (12th August 1953)

Dr. K. H. L. KEY (*Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, Canberra, A.C.T., Australia*) (15th October 1953)

Dr. Alden H. MILLER (*Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, U.S.A.*) (29th October 1954)

Doc. Dr. Ferdinand PRANTL (*Národní Museum V Praze, Prague, Czechoslovakia*) (30th October 1954)

Professor Dr. Wilhelm KÜHNELT (*Zoologisches Institut der Universität, Vienna, Austria*) (6th November 1954)

Professor F. S. BODENHEIMER (*The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel*) (11th November 1954)

Professor Ernst MAYR (*Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*) (4th December 1954)

Professor Enrico TORTONESE (*Museo di Storia Naturale "G. Doria", Genova, Italy*) (16th December 1954)

OPINION 545

VALIDATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF THE GENERIC NAME "DICTYOPLOCA" JORDAN, 1911 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER LEPIDOPTERA)

RULING :—(1) Under the Plenary Powers the generic name *Dictyoploca* Krauss, [March] 1911 (Class Insecta, Order Embioptera) is hereby suppressed for the purposes both of the Law of Priority and of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

(a) *Dictyoploca* Jordan, [October] 1911, as validated under the Plenary Powers in (1) above (gender : feminine) (type species, by selection by Jordan (1957) : *Saturnia simla* Westwood, 1847) (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera) (Name No. 1336) ;

(b) *Apterembia* Ross, 1957 (gender : feminine) (type species, through Rule (f) in Article 30 of the *Règles* by original designation for *Dictyoploca* Krauss, [March] 1911, suppressed under the Plenary Powers in (1) above : *Dictyoploca cercocyrtia* Krauss, 1911) (Class Insecta, Order Embioptera) (Name No. 1337).

(3) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

(a) *simla* Westwood, 1847, as published in the combination *Saturnia simla* (specific name of type species of *Dictyoploca* Jordan, 1911) (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera) (Name No. 1609) ;

(b) *cercocyrtia* Krauss, 1911, as published in the combination *Dictyoploca cercocyrtia* (specific name of type species of *Apterembia* Ross, 1957) (Class Insecta, Order Embioptera) (Name No. 1610).

(4) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name No. 1240 :—

Dictyoploca Krauss, 1911, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers in (1) above.

I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 10th February 1956, Dr. Edward S. Ross (*Curator of Insects, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California, U.S.A.*) addressed a preliminary communication to the Office of the Commission on the question of the possible use of the Plenary Powers for the purpose of preserving the well-known generic name *Dictyoploca* Jordan, 1911, in the Order Lepidoptera (Class Insecta) which was at present invalid as a junior homonym of *Dictyoploca* Krauss [March] 1911, the little-known name of an obscure genus in another Order (Embioptera) of the Class Insecta. Dr. Ross explained that it was not as a lepidopterist that he was raising this matter but as a specialist in the Embioptera engaged in the preparation of a paper covering the genus in question. He was of the opinion that the name *Dictyoploca* in the Lepidoptera had much stronger claims for

conservation than the name *Dictyoploca* in the Embioptera and he accordingly hoped that the Commission would be prepared in the interest of stability in nomenclature to use its Plenary Powers to secure this end. Correspondence ensued between the Secretary and Dr. Ross and others, and this led on 8th January 1957 to the submission to the Commission by Dr. Ross of the following application :—

**Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to validate the generic name
“*Dictyoploca*” Jordan, 1911 (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera)
by suppressing the name “*Dictyoploca*” Krauss, 1911 (Class
Insecta, Order Embioptera)**

By EDWARD S. ROSS

(Curator of Insects, California Academy of Sciences,
San Francisco, California, U.S.A.)

The object of the present application is to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to use its Plenary Powers to validate the important and well-known generic name *Dictyoploca* Jordan, 1911 (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera) by suppressing the name *Dictyoploca* Krauss, 1911 (Class Insecta, Order Embioptera), a name for an obscure genus which has seldom appeared in the literature, the suppression of which would cause very little, if any, inconvenience to specialists in the Embioptera. I should explain that my interest in this matter is that I have in preparation a paper dealing with the Embiid genus and I am anxious to avoid using for it the name *Dictyoploca* Krauss, since there can, in my view, be no question but that in the interest of stability that the name ought to be suppressed in favour of the name *Dictyoploca* Jordan in Lepidoptera.

2. There is some doubt as to the exact date of publication in 1911 of the two names here in question but it is quite clear that the name for the Embiid genus has priority over the name for the Lepidoptera genus, for the serial containing the name *Dictyoploca* Krauss was received in the British Museum (Natural History) on 28th March 1911, while the Part of Seitz's *Grossschmetterlinge der Erde* containing the name *Dictyoploca* Jordan bears the date 25th October 1911 and was not received in the British Museum until 12th December 1911 (see Griffin, 1936, *Trans. R. ent. Soc. Lond.* **85**(10): 243–280). The following are the original references for the two names in question :—

Dictyoploca Krauss, [March] 1911, *Zoologica*, Stuttgart No. 60 : 54

Dictyoploca Jordan, [October] 1911, in Seitz, *Grossschmett. Erde* 2(90) : 218

3. The type species of *Dictyoploca* Krauss by original designation is *Dictyoploca cercocyrt*a Krauss, 1911 (*loc. cit.* : 55). This is considered to be a good species and *cercocyrt*a Krauss is the oldest name for it. The genus *Dictyoploca* Jordan was established without a designated type species. Through the intermediary of the Secretary, I have been in communication on this subject with Dr. Jordan who, in order to facilitate the submission of the present application to the Commission, has recently (Jordan, 1957, *Entomologist* **90** : 50) very kindly selected the nominal species *Saturnia simla* Westwood, 1847 (*Cab. orient. Ent.* : 41), the second of the species originally placed by him in his genus *Dictyoploca*, to be the type species of that genus.

4. So far as I am aware, the Embiid name has only appeared in print on four occasions since its original publication. The references concerned are

given in Annexe 1. The Lepidoptera name has, however, been used repeatedly. Examples of its use are given in Annexe 2.

5. The Embiid name *Dictyoploca* Krauss has not been taken as the base for a family-group name, the genus concerned being currently placed in the family EMBIIDAE. I am informed also that the Lepidoptera *Dictyoploca* Jordan has not been taken as the base for such a name, the genus in question being currently placed in the family SATURNIIDAE.

6. For the reasons set forth above it seems to me to be perfectly clear that the action now recommended is that required in the general interest and I hope that it will meet with the approval of the Commission. I recognise that in that event the Commission will wish to place on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* not only the generic name *Dictyoploca* Jordan in Lepidoptera but also the valid name for the Embiid genus after its present name *Dictyoploca* Krauss has been suppressed. At present there is no alternative name and, in order to fill this gap I now propose the name *Apterembia* *nom. nov.*¹ as a substitute name for the name *Dictyoploca* Krauss, 1911.

7. I accordingly now submit the following recommendations to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, namely that it should :—

- (1) use its Plenary Powers to suppress the generic name *Dictyoploca* Krauss [March] 1911 (Class Insecta, Order Embioptera) for the purposes both of the Law of Priority and of the Law of Homonymy ;
- (2) place the under-mentioned generic names on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* :—
 - (a) *Dictyoploca* Jordan, [October] 1911, as validated under the Plenary Powers in (1) above (gender : feminine) (type species by selection by Jordan (1957) : *Saturnia simla* Westwood, 1847) (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera) ;
 - (b) *Apterembia* Ross, 1957 (gender : feminine) (type species under Rule (f) in Article 30 by original designation for *Dictyoploca* Krauss, 1911, as proposed in (1) above to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers : *Dictyoploca cercocyrtia* Krauss, 1911) (Class Insecta, Order Embioptera) ;
- (3) place the under-mentioned specific names on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—
 - (a) *simla* Westwood, 1847, as published in the combination *Saturnia simla* (specific name of type species of *Dictyoploca* Jordan, 1911) ;
 - (b) *cercocyrtia* Krauss, 1911, as published in the combination *Dictyoploca cercocyrtia* (specific name of type species of *Apterembia* Ross, 1957) ;
- (4) place the generic name *Dictyoploca* Krauss, 1911, as proposed in (1) above to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.

¹ Dr. Ross's paper is here reprinted in exactly the form in which it was first published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* in March 1957 (See paragraph 5 of the present *Opinion*). It will be understood therefore that it was in the above *Bulletin* paper and not in the present *Opinion* that the name *Apterembia* was first published.

ANNEXE 1

Particulars of the usage of the generic name " Dictyoploca "
Krauss, 1911 (*Class Insecta, Order Embioptera*)

- Krauss, 1911, *Zoologica*, Stuttgart, No. 60 : 54 (original publication of name *Dictyoploca*)
- Enderlein, 1912, *Coll. zool. Selys Longchamps* 3 : 103 (as synonym of *Montyloia* Enderlein, in error)
- Rimsky-Korsakov, 1927, *Rev. russ. Ent.* 21 : 147 (as syn. of *Haploembia* Verhoeff, in error)
- Davis, 1939, *Proc. linn. Soc. N.S.W.* 64 : 482
- Ross, 1955, *S. African Anim. Life*, Uppsala 2 : 305 (records)

ANNEXE 2

Particulars of the usage of the generic name " Dictyoploca " Jordan,
1911 (*Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera*)

- Jordan, 1911, in Seitz, *Grossschmett. Erde* 2 : 218 (original publication of the name *Dictyoploca*)
- Cockerell, 1914, in Packard, *Monogr. Bomb. Moths N. Amer.* 3 : 172, pl. XCVIII, figs. 3 (text)
- Seitz, 1918, *Seidengucht in Deutschland* : 138
- , 1928, *Grossschmett. Erde* 10 : 516
- Bang-Hass, 1928, *Novit. macrolep.* 3 : 52
- , 1930, *ibid.* 4 : 35
- Strondl, 1930, *Int. ent. Z.* 24(7) : 101
- Bollow, 1932, in Seitz, *Grossschmett. Erde*, Suppl. 2 : 131
- Schüssler, 1933, in Strand, *Lepid. Cat. Pars* 55 : 242-247
- , 1934, *ibid.*, Pars 65 : 689

II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : Upon the receipt in 1956 of Dr. Ross' preliminary communication, the question of the possible use by the Commission of its Plenary Powers for the purpose of validating the generic name *Dictyoploca* Jordan in the Order Lepidoptera was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 1072.

3. Receipt prior to publication of support from the lepidopterological side from N. D. Riley and Karl Jordan : At the time of the receipt of Dr. Ross' preliminary communication on the subject of the proposed preservation of the generic name *Dictyoploca* Jordan, 1911, it was found that, although that generic name had been used in a consistent sense by all the lepidopterists by whom it had been employed, it had in fact never been defined by the selection for it of

a type species from the nominal species originally placed in it by Jordan. This was an omission which it was necessary should be made good before an application on this subject could be submitted to the Commission, for that application would need to include a proposal that the above generic name should be placed on the *Official List* of available names at the same time that the name *Dictyoploca* Krauss, 1911, in the Embioptera, which it was now proposed should be suppressed by the Commission under its Plenary Powers was placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*. Correspondence on this aspect was accordingly opened by the Secretary with Mr. N. D. Riley (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) who expressed himself as being in full accord with the proposal for the preservation of the generic name *Dictyoploca* Jordan. After examining the series in the British Museum of the two nominal species available for selection as the type species of this genus he formed the conclusion that the more suitable of the two was *Saturnia simla* Westwood, 1847. Mr. Riley added that, while he would be very glad himself to make the necessary type selection, it would, he thought, be particularly appropriate if this was to be done by the Commission's Honorary Life President, Dr. Karl Jordan (*British Museum (Natural History), The Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts, England*), having regard to the fact that it was by him that over forty years earlier the nominal genus *Dictyoploca* had been established in the Lepidoptera. When consulted, Dr. Jordan at once intimated his support for the action proposed and immediately prepared a short note in which he selected the above species to be the type species of his genus *Dictyoploca*. A brief reference to these discussions was included by Dr. Ross in paragraph 3 of the application which he submitted to the Commission.

4. Receipt prior to publication of support from the Embioptera point of view from E. McC. Callan : On 31st May 1956, Dr. E. McC. Callan (*Department of Zoology and Entomology, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa*) addressed the following communication to the Office of the Commission in support of the present application from the Embioptera point of view (Callan (E.McC.), 1957, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 13 : 83) :—

I beg to support the application of Dr. E. S. Ross that the Law of Priority be waived in respect of *Dictyoploca* Krauss of the EMBIIDAE in favour of *Dictyoploca* Jordan of the SATURNIIDAE.

A new and more stable name for the Cape EMBIIDAE to take the place of *Dictyoploca* Krauss seems eminently desirable. This change would make no difference whatever in South African entomology, as the name *Dictyoploca* Krauss appears never to have been used by entomologists in South Africa.

5. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 14th January 1957 and was published on 29th March of that year in Double-Part 2/3 of Volume 13 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Ross, 1957, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 13 : 80–83).

6. Issue of Public Notices : Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 51–56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 29th March 1947 (a) in Double-Part 2/3 of Volume 13 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which Dr. Ross's application was published) and (b) to the other prescribed publications. In addition such Notice was given to four general zoological serial publications and to eight entomological serials in Europe and America respectively.

7. **No Objection Received** : Neither the publication of the present application nor the ensuing issue of Public Notices in regard thereto elicited any objection to the action proposed from any source.

III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

8. **Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(57)53** : On 11th October 1957 a Voting Paper (V.P.(57)53) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, "the proposal relating to the generic name *Dictyoploca* Jordan, 1911 (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera), as set out in Points (1) to (4) in paragraph 7 on pages 81-82 of Volume 13 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*" [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

9. **The Prescribed Voting Period** : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 11th January 1958.

10. **Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(57)53** : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(57)53 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-five (25) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis ; Vokes ; Bonnet ; Mayr ; Bradley (J.C.) ; do Amaral ; Lemche ; Hering ; Dymond ; Prantl ; Riley ; Esaki ; Bodenheimer ; Boschma ; Hemming ; Mertens ; Hankó ; Miller ; Stoll ; Jaczewski ; Kühnelt ; Cabrera ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Tortonese ; Key ;

(b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

(c) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

11. **Declaration of Result of Vote** : On 12th January 1958, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(57)53, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 10 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

12. **Preparation of the Ruling given in the present "Opinion"** : On 10th May 1958, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(57)53.

13. Original References for Generic and Specific Names : The following are the original references for the generic and specific names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

Apterembia Ross (E.S.), 1957, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **13** : 81

*cercocyrt*a, *Dictyoploca*, Krauss, 1911, *Zoologica*, Stuttgart, No. 60 : 55

Dictyoploca Krauss, 1911, *Zoologica*, Stuttgart, No. 60 : 54

Dictyoploca Jordan, 1911, in Seitz, *Grossschmett. Erde* 2(90) : 218

simla, *Saturnia*, Westwood, 1847, *Cab. orient. Ent.* : 41

14. Reference for the selection of a type species for a nominal genus : The following is the reference for the selection of a type species for a nominal genus specified in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

For *Dictyoploca* Jordan, 1911

Jordan, 1957, *Entomologist* **90** : 50

15. Family-Group-Name Aspects : The applicant has reported (in paragraph 5 of the application reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*) that no family-group-name problem arises in the present case, the Embiid genus *Dictyoploca* Krauss (now correctly known as *Apterembia* Ross) being currently placed in the family EMBIIDAE and the Lepidopteran genus *Dictyoploca* Jordan in the family SATURNIIDAE.

16. Compliance with Prescribed Procedures : The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

17. "Opinion" Number : The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Five Hundred and Forty-Five (545) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Tenth day of May, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Eight

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING

